

**Amendments to the Claims**

1. (withdrawn)

2. (withdrawn).

3. (withdrawn)

4. (withdrawn)

5. (withdrawn)

6. (withdrawn)

7. (currently amended) A polyester bottle exhibiting reduced bottle-to-bottle friction comprised of a polyester polymer containing an effective amount of barium sulfate as a friction reducing additive, whereby the weight percentage and particle size of barium sulfate are selected to provide a said bottle being characterized by an absence of visible haze and reduced bottle-to-bottle friction.

8. (original) The bottle of claim 7, wherein said polyester polymer is selected from polyethylene terephthalate and modified polyethylene terephthalate.

9. (original) The bottle of claim 7 wherein said polymer contains up to about 0.1 wt. % barium sulfate having an average particle size of from about 0.1 to about 2.0 microns.

10. (original) The bottle of claim 7, wherein said polymer contains from about 0.005 to about 0.05 wt. % barium sulfate.

11. (original) The bottle of claim 7, wherein said barium sulfate has an average

*Sub B1 cont.*  
particle size of from about 0.2 to about 1.0 micron.

12. (currently amended) The bottle of claim 7, wherein said polymer contains about 0.01 wt. % barium sulfate having an average particle size of ~~from~~ about 0.5 microns.

13. (original) The bottle of claim 7, wherein said bottle is a two-liter beverage container.

*Sub B1 cont.*  
14. (withdrawn)

15. (withdrawn)

16. (withdrawn)

17. (withdrawn)

18. (withdrawn)

19. (withdrawn)

20. (withdrawn)

*Sub B1 cont.*  
21. (new) A polyester bottle comprised of a polyester polymer containing from about 0.005 to about 0.05 wt. % barium sulfate, whereby the weight percentage and particle size of barium sulfate are selected to provide a said bottle being characterized by an absence of visible haze and reduced bottle-to-bottle friction.

22. (new) The bottle of claim 21, wherein said polyester polymer is selected from polyethylene terephthalate and modified polyethylene terephthalate.

23. (new) The bottle of claim 21, wherein said barium sulfate has an average particle size of from about 0.2 to about 1.0 micron.

24. (new) The bottle of claim 21, wherein said bottle is a two-liter beverage container.

*Sub 21*  
25. (new) The bottle of claim 21, wherein said bottle has a wall thickness of from about 0.12 mm to about 0.65 mm.

*Amended*  
26. (new) A polyester bottle having a wall thickness of from about 0.12 mm to about 0.65 mm comprised of a polyester polymer containing from about 0.005 to about 0.05 wt. % barium sulfate having an average particle size of from about 0.1 to about 2.0 microns, whereby the weight percentage and particle size of barium sulfate are selected to provide a bottle characterized by an absence of visible haze and reduced bottle-to-bottle friction.

27. (new) The bottle of claim 26, wherein said polyester polymer is selected from polyethylene terephthalate and modified polyethylene terephthalate.

28. (new) The bottle of claim 26, wherein said polymer contains about 0.01 wt. % barium sulfate having an average particle size of about 0.5 micron.

29. (new) The bottle of claim 26, wherein said bottle is a two-liter beverage container.

30. (new) The bottle of claim 26, wherein said bottle has a wall thickness of from about 0.2 mm to about 0.45 mm.